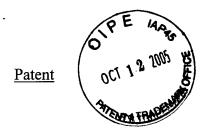
Docket No. 1232-4719



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s)

TABATA

Serial No.

09/867,872

Art Unit

2622

Filed

May 30, 2001

Examiner

H. Safaipour

For

ILLUMINATION DEVICE, IMAGE SENSOR HAVING THE ILLUMINATION DEVICE, IMAGE READING APPARATUS

AND INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM USING THE

IMAGE SENSOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MAIL STOP - RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Kindly enter this Preliminary Amendment, which is being filed concurrently with a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), as a submission under 37 CFR § 1.114. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment prior to continued examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begin on Page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on Page 5 of this paper.